

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 CU-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIE-00 AF-06

ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 OIC-02 IOE-00 DHA-02

INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 SS-15 SP-02 NSC-05 L-03 H-02

PA-01 PRS-01 /094 W

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O R 211838Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5427

INFO USMISSION USUN

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NESCO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON, UNESCO

SUBJECT: 15TH NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

CONFERENCE: ONE ADOPTED, ONE DEFERRED OF
JEWISH NGO'S RESOLUTIONS

1. FINAL PLENARY SESSION OF 15TH CONFERENCE OF NGO'S
HAVING CONSULTATIVE STATUS WITH UNESCO HIGHLIGHTED BY
PASSAGE OF RESOLUTION SPONSORED BY B'NAI BRITH
INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL AND CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL OF JEWISH
ORGANIZATIONS, EXPRESSING SATISFACTION WITH UNESCO
EXECUTIVE BOARD DECISION THIS FALL ON REGIONAL GROUP
ISSUE AND BY DEFERRAL FOR FURTHER STUDY BY SUBJECT
CONFERENCE STANDING COMMITTEE OF RESOLUTION
PROTESTING UNGA "ZIONISM-RACISM" EQUATION. FORMER
RESOLUTION PASSED AFTER CO-SPONSORS AMENDMENT OF
ULTIMATE AND OPERATIVE PARA THAT TRANSMITS EXPRESSION OF
SATISFACTION WITH FALL EXECUTIVE BOARD ACTION ON REGIONAL
ISSUES TO DIRECTOR GENERAL BY VOTE OF 71 IN FAVOR, TWO
AGAINST, WITH 18 ABSTENTIONS.

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2. HOWEVER, THE RESOLUTION AGAINST EQUATION OF "ZIONISM-RACISM" SPONSORED BY INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN, INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH SOCIAL AND WELFARE SERVICES, INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR THE RIGHTS OF MAN, SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL AND WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS, AS WELL AS TWO NGO CO-SPONSORS OF SUCCESSFUL RESOLUTION, WAS DEFERRED BY MOTION OF AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL FOR FURTHER STUDY BY NGO CONFERENCE STANDING COMMITTEE FOR REPORT AT NEXT CONFERENCE. VOTE 31 IN FAVOR, 20 AGAINST, WITH 18 ABSTENTIONS. RESOLUTION UNDERWENT SEVERAL REVISIONS AND NECESSITATED HALF-DAY EXTENSION OF NGO CONFERENCE IN UNSUCCESSFUL EFFORT TO COME UP WITH COMPROMIS DRAFT RESOLUTION. WORKING GROUP COMPRISING AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL, CO-SPONSORING INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR THE RIGHTS OF MAN AND OPPONENT'S REPRESENTATIVE, WORLD FEDERATION OF DEMOCRATIC YOUTH, WERE UNABLE TO AGREE ON MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE TEXT. JEWISH NGO'S THEREFORE PROCEEDED WITH MODIFIED VERSION OF ORIGINAL TEXT.

3. MOST STRIKING POLITICAL FACTOR WAS THAT NGO'S PRESENT WERE LARGELY REPRESENTED BY FRENCH SPOKESMEN. FURTHER, A SUBSTANTIAL AND ULTIMATELY DECISIVE ABSTAINING MINORITY OF NON-BLOC-LINKED NGO'S, E.G. AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR THE RED CROSS, WERE RELUCTANT TO TAKE ACTION NOW ON QUESTION THEY INTERPRETED AS GROUNDED IN COMPLEX MIDDLE EASTERN PROBLEM.

4. CO-SPONSORS TOLD DELOFF THAT ADG MAJMAN MET WITH THEM YESTERDAY EVENING TO URGE THEY DESIST FROM PRESSING THEIR "ZIONISM-RACISM" RESOLUTION ON GENERAL GROUNDS OF ITS POLITICAL CONTROVERSIALITY AND IN PARTICULAR THAT IT MIGHT HARM UNESCO BEHIND THE SCENES EFFORTS FOR

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PA-01 PRS-01 /094 W

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O R 211838Z NOV 75

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CONCILIATION. NAJMAN REPORTEDLY ALSO MADE SIMILAR INTERVENTION WITH CO-SPONSORS OF AN ANTI-CHILEAN RESOLUTION WHICH, HOWEVER, WAS SUCCESSFUL (SEE SEPTTEL).

5. COMMENT: DEFERRAL OF RESOLUTION ON "ZIONISM-RACISM" LIKELY TO BE CONSIDERED BY CO-SPONSORS AS A DEFEAT, ALTHOUGH NO CONCLUSIVE ACTION AGAINST RESOLUTION WAS TAKEN. MOREOVER, SECRETARIAT'S VIEWS URGING WITHDRAWAL OF RESOLUTION MAY BE PORTRAYED BY CO-SPONSORS AS IMPORTANT FACTOR IN OBTAINING DEFERRAL. HOWEVER, PERMDEL'S BEST ASSESSMENT IS THAT MOST DECISIVE FACTOR WAS NGO RELUCTANCE TO JUMP INTO MIDDLE EASTERN FRAY. FURTHER, CO-SPONSORS, AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED, DID NOT RPT NOT UNDERTAKE LOBBYING EFFORT AMONG OTHER POTENTIALLY SUPPORTIVE NGO'S, PARTICULARLY AS STRONG MAJORITY WERE FROM WESTERN EUROPE AND THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES IN DISTINCT MINORITY. OTHER NOTABLE NGO'S PARTICIPATING IN CONFERENCE WERE YWCA, YMCA, GIRLS SCOUTS , AND MANY CATHOLIC ORGANIZATIONS. ONLY KNOWN MEDIA PRESENCE WAS AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE. AS DEPARTMENT AWARE, CONFERENCE IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ANY CASE CAN TAKE NO DECISIONS OF ANY BINDING EFFECT UPON UNESCO.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 NOV 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975PARIS30476
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750406-0703
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751120/aaaaarom.tel
Line Count: 160
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 MAY 2003 by ShawDG>; RELEASED <29 MAY 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <12 NOV 2003 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: 15TH NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS CONFERENCE: ONE ADOPTED, ONE DEFERRED OF
TAGS: OCON, UNESCO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006